

AMSINCKIA IN THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES.—In ordering up the genus *Amsinckia* in the Gray Herbarium I have discovered that the species introduced and apparently somewhat naturalized about Southington, Connecticut, is not *A. lycopsoides* Lehm., as supposed, but *A. barbata* Greene. Until now, Greene's species has been known only from Vancouver Island and has the general aspect of *A. lycopsoides* as that species has been commonly interpreted. However, *A. barbata* is very well marked, possessing salient characters which are not found in any other one species: the sepals are bearded along the edges with soft white hairs and the large nutlets are carinate and sharply muriculate without being rugose except toward the tip. Mr. Luman Andrews collected *A. barbata* at Southington in 1895 and from a note accompanying the specimen it is evident that the plant was first noticed in that locality in 1892. It was secured by Mr. C. H. Bissell in 1897 and 1898, and in 1899 Mr. Andrews mentioned it in RHODORA, i. 104, as "a recent introduction but.... well-established" at Southington. The "Flowering Plants and Ferns of Connecticut," issued in 1910, gives two additional stations, viz., Hartford (*Bissell*), and Salisbury (*Mrs. C. S. Phelps*), but I have not seen these latter specimens.

The first published record of the introduction of this genus seems to be by Rev. William P. Alcott in the Bulletin of the Essex Institute, xiii. 6 (1881). He there includes *A. spectabilis* F. & M. in a list of "Introduced plants found in the vicinity of a wool-scouring establishment" at North Chelmsford (near Lowell), Massachusetts. He mentions that it was "very abundant." In Dame and Collins's Flora of Middlesex County, Massachusetts, 75 (1888) Alcott's specimen and also one from Lowell, secured by Dr. F. Nickerson, are listed as *A. intermedia* F. & M. The Herbarium of the New England Botanical Club contains one specimen from Lowell collected at Chase's Woolen Mills in 1880 by Miss M. Swan. In the seventh edition of Gray's Manual this specimen is included in *A. lycopsoides* and the range of this species is given as "locally established, eastern Massachusetts to Connecticut." However, it is with no little hesitation that I refer this specimen to the same species as the one established at Southington, Connecticut (i. e. *A. barbata*). The Lowell plant has smaller more rugose nutlets and accrescent sepals. It is spindling, however, and gives the impression of abnormal development. On the other hand it is entirely possible that all the Lowell specimens,

considering the various names they have gone under, represent another species. Local botanists should look for the plant next July and if it still persists secure it in quantity in good fruiting condition. Britton & Brown, Ill. Fl. ed. 2, iii. 84 (1913) records *A. intermedia* as sparingly introduced on Long Island and about Nantucket. If one may judge from their brief characterization it seems probable that this is rather *A. Douglasiana* DC. Other species that are essentially weedy in character in their native habitats, such as *A. tessellata* Gray, are to be expected in the eastern States.—J. FRANCIS MACBRIDE, Gray Herbarium.

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